



APPENDIX A- CLEAN COPY OF THE CLAIMS

1. A device for remote-site collection and drying of a liquid biological sample obtained from an individual for the purpose of mailing the dried sample for recovery and laboratory analysis of an analyte contained in the biological sample, said device comprising:

a strip having a handle end and a collection end, said collection end having attached thereon a collection pad for collecting and drying the sample containing the analyte,

wherein the device includes a means for facilitating removal of at least a portion of the collection pad from the strip to recover the analyte for detection or measurement by laboratory analysis.

2. The device of claim 1 wherein the collection pad has applied thereon the biological sample and the biological sample comprises urine.

3. The device of claim 1 wherein the collection pad has applied thereon the biological sample and the biological sample comprises albumin derived from urine.

4. The device of claim 1 wherein the collection pad comprises an absorbent material.

5. The device of claim 4 wherein the absorbent material comprises glass fiber.

6. The device of claim 4 wherein the absorbent material comprises polyvinyl alcohol.

7. The device of claim 1 wherein the means for facilitating removal of at least a portion of the collection pad comprises an aperture formed through the collection end of the strip.

8. The device of claim 1 wherein the collection pad is pre-treated with a reagent

which facilitates the collection, separation, storage, transport, preservation, recovery, or analysis of the sample.

9. The device of claim 8 wherein the collection pad pre-treatment reagent is a solution comprising bovine serum albumin.

10. The device of claim 1 wherein the collection pad is substantially non-reactive for purposes of providing a rapid, on-site diagnostic test.

11. The device of claim 1 wherein said device comprises a plurality of collection pads.

12. The device of claim 1 wherein said device comprises a plurality of apertures formed through the collection end of the strip.

19. A kit for remote-site collecting of a biological sample from a patient for laboratory analysis of said sample, said kit comprising:

a sample collection device comprising a strip having a handle end and a collection end, said collection end having a collection pad for collecting and drying the sample containing the analyte, wherein the device includes a means for facilitating removal of at least a portion of the collection pad from the strip to recover the analyte for detection or measurement by laboratory analysis; and

an information card for providing information about the patient.

20. The kit of claim 19 wherein said kit further comprises a urine collection cup for

collecting a urine sample.

21. The kit of claim 19 wherein the means for removing at least a portion of the collection pad comprises an aperture formed through the collection end of the strip.

22. The device of claim 4, wherein the absorbent material comprises cellulose.

23. The device of claim 4, wherein the absorbent material comprises glass fiber and cellulose.

24. The kit of claim 19 wherein said kit further comprises packaging means for transporting the collected sample.

25. The device of claim 1, wherein said strip is made of a polymer and is rigid enough to prevent drooping or bending of the strip during manipulation by a user of the device.

26. The device of claim 25, wherein said polymer is polystyrene.